

PROJECT 10073 RECORD CARD

1. DATE 23 March 1963		2. LOCATION Atlanta, Georgia		12. CONCLUSIONS <input type="checkbox"/> Was Balloon <input type="checkbox"/> Probably Balloon <input type="checkbox"/> Possibly Balloon <input type="checkbox"/> Was Aircraft <input type="checkbox"/> Probably Aircraft <input type="checkbox"/> Possibly Aircraft	
3. DATE-TIME GROUP Local 2000 GMT 24/0100Z		4. TYPE OF OBSERVATION <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ground-Visual <input type="checkbox"/> Ground-Radar <input type="checkbox"/> Air-Visual <input type="checkbox"/> Air-Intercept Radar		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Was Astronomical Meteor <input type="checkbox"/> Probably Astronomical <input type="checkbox"/> Possibly Astronomical	
5. PHOTOS <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No		6. SOURCE Civilian		<input type="checkbox"/> Other <input type="checkbox"/> Insufficient Data for Evaluation <input type="checkbox"/> Unknown	
7. LENGTH OF OBSERVATION 1-3 seconds		8. NUMBER OF OBJECTS one		9. COURSE descending	
10. BRIEF SUMMARY OF SIGHTING Object viewed to the NE which gave the impression of floating down from the sky. Size estimated at 1/3 size sun. Blue and edged with gold. Round except for portion pulled down into a tear-drop shape.			11. COMMENTS Observer probably saw a meteor entering the atmosphere to the NE which gave the impression of descending. Description and duration consistent with this analysis. Also evaluated as a meteor-like object by WX bureau official who forwarded the initial letter from the witness.		

23 March 1963

April 12, 1963

0-4.22

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Decatur, Georgia

Dear [REDACTED]:

We are referring your report of April 5, 1963, of the sighting of a meteor-like object to the Foreign Technology Division, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio, for their information, and any reply they may consider appropriate.

Such phenomena are outside our area of study and activity. Therefore, we do not believe it is appropriate for us to try to identify the phenomenon you saw. We can only speculate that the most probable explanation is that it was a meteor, but we have no other reports that would help us prove or disprove this possible explanation.

Sincerely yours,

A. K. Showalter
Chief, Observations and
Station Facilities Division

cc:

Wright-Patterson AFB (with [REDACTED] letter)

PPStarke:ajs 4/12/63

[REDACTED]
Decatur, Georgia
April 5, 1963

U. S. Weather Bureau
Washington, D. C.

Gentlemen:

METEOR

On the evening of March 23, at almost precisely eight O'clock, I saw, roughly northeast from Decatur (Atlanta), an object float down from the sky and disappear behind rooftops. It seemed to go with infinite leisure but I cannot be sure whether I observed it for one second or three. It was not less than one second.

The object was roughly a third as large as the sun seems to be when directly overhead on a winter day. It was blue in color and edged with gold. It was round, but was pulled downward toward a raindrop shape, especially the gold edge which made a streamer of sparks toward the earth. It was also pulled a little out of shape at the top where the gold streamed a little upward.

I have watched both papers and magazines for an explanation, and finally began to wonder if my observation might be of value--I am quite sure you have had other descriptions of this phenomenon. It was the most spectacularly beautiful thing I have ever seen.

I should be most interested to know what I saw. There is no doubt of my having seen something.

Very sincerely,
[REDACTED]